Drawings

In response to the objections to the informal drawings made by the Draftsperson, Applicants enclose formal Figures 1-7.

Information Disclosure Statement

The concise statement of relevancy for the French patent documents listed on the Information Disclosure Statement at AQ-AV was provided in the specification as originally filed at page 7, lines 28-33 (MPEP § 609 (A(3)). Further, Applicants will provide full translations of these French patents for the Examiner's further consideration under separate cover.

In the Claims

Applicants now amend claims 1-6, 9, 10, and 15. Consistent with the new rules on claim amendments, Applicants provide the text of the amended claims below and then attach a marked-up version of the original claims that indicates the amendments.

1. (Amended) A method to assess whether a compound enhances the clearing of a cholesterol-containing low density lipoprotein in a host human or other animal comprising:

(a) administering the compound to the host ;

(b) isolating cholesterol-containing low density lipoprotein from the host,

(c) determining whether the compound has bound to the cholesterol-containing lipoprotein to form a complex; and

(d) determining whether the complex results in a change in the three dimensional conformation of the lipoprotein that enhances the binding affinity of the lipoprotein to the LDL receptor.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the compound changes the conformation of apolipoprotein in the low density lipoprotein (LDL).

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the cholesterol-containing lipoprotein is very low density lipoprotein (VLDL).

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the binding of the compound to the complex is assessed by a sandwich immunoreactivity assay.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the binding of the compound to the complex is assessed using agarose electrophoresis.

6. (Amended) A method to determine whether a compound will increase the clearance of a low density lipoprotein in a host, comprising

(i) mixing the compound with low density lipoprotein;

(ii) determining whether the compound and the low density lipoprotein form a complex; and

(iii)determining whether the complex alters the three dimensional conformation of the lipoprotein such that the binding of the lipoprotein to a lipoprotein receptor is enhanced.

9. (Amended) A method to determine if a compound causes a change in the structure of apolipoprotein B-100 in a cholesterol-containing low density lipoprotein that would be therapeutically useful, comprising:

(i) mixing the compound with low density lipoprotein;

(ii) carrying out a sandwich immunoreactivity assay on the compound low density lipoprotein mixture using an antibody directed to the epitope on apolipoprotein B-100 that binds to the LDL-receptor,

(iii) using a second antibody to quantify the amount of LDL captured by the assay; and

(iv) comparing the amount of LDL captured by the assay to a control.

10. (Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein the conformational change in lipoprotein is assessed by observing a change in the electrophorectic mobility pattern of the lipoprotein using electrophoresis.

15. (Amended) A method for assessing whether a compound enhances the binding of the lipoprotein to a lipoprotein receptor and thus lowers plasma cholesterol, the method comprising:

(a) allowing the compound to form a complex with a cholesterol-containing lipoprotein in vivo,

(b) isolating the resulting complex, and

(c) determining whether the formation of the complex causes a change in the three dimensional conformation of apoB-100 in the lipoprotein that enhances the binding of the lipoprotein to the LDL hepatic receptor.

Please add the following new claims:

21. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the apolipoprotein is apoB-100.

22. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the lipoprotein receptor is the low density lipoprotein hepatic receptor.

23. (New) The method of claim 6, wherein the cholesterol-containing lipoprotein is VLDL.

24. (New) The method of claim 6, wherein the lipoprotein receptor is hepatic.

25. (New) The method of claim 6, wherein the binding of the compound to the complex is assessed by a sandwich immunoreactivity assay.

26. (New) The method of claim 6, wherein the binding of the compound to the complex is assessed using agarose electrophoresis.

27. (New) The method of claim 6, wherein the compound alters the conformation of apoB-100.

28. (New) The method of claim 6, wherein the lipoprotein receptor is the low density lipoprotein (LDL) receptor.

29. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein the control is cholesterol-containing low density lipoprotein in the absence of test compound.

30. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein the cholesterol-containing lipoprotein is VLDL.

31. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the binding of the compound to the complex is determined by a sandwich immunoreactivity assay.

32. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the binding of the compound to the complex is determined using agarose electrophoresis.

33. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein the apolipoprotein is apoB-100.

34. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein the lipoprotein receptor is the low density lipoprotein (LDL) receptor.

35. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the cholesterol-containing lipoprotein is LDL.

36. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the cholesterol-containing lipoprotein is VLDL.